

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double brackets indicating deletions.

Listing of the Claims

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An interventional procedure simulation system, comprising:

a control unit and an interface unit, said control unit being configured to communicate with said interface unit to simulate handling of at least one instrument interfaced by said interface unit,

wherein the control unit includes a database of vessels ~~having~~ interconnected in a hierarchy-hierarchical structure, each vessel having a diameter and a stiffness,

said instrument being a tool expandable in a simulated vessel, whereby ~~if~~-when said tool is expanded, a simulated geometry of said vessel changes resulting in a simulated fluid flow change in the simulated vessel,

said simulated fluid flow change affecting fluid flow changes in adjacent simulated vessels, and

the system being configured to recursively calculate said simulated fluid flow in the simulated vessel and the fluid flow changes in said adjacent simulated vessels. ~~model the simulated flow change as an electrical resistive~~

~~network in which potentials correspond to pressure, currents correspond to flow and electrical resistance corresponds to flow resistance.~~

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 1, wherein said instrument is a balloon, stent or a distal protection tool.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of vessels is realized by a tubular geometry and a specific stiffness.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of vessels are realized by lesions having different stiffness than neighboring vessel parts.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 1, wherein the system is configured to calculate ~~calculates~~ a flow through the hierarchal structure realized as a vessel-tree as a result of a geometry of the vessel-tree.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of simulating flow of a body fluid in an interventional procedure simulation system having a control unit and an interface unit, said control unit being configured to communicate with said interface unit to simulate handling of at least one instrument interfaced by said interface unit, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a database of vessels having a hierarchical ~~hierarehy~~ structure in said control unit, wherein each vessel has a diameter and a stiffness;
- providing said _instrument as a tool expandable in a simulated vessel;
and
- changing a simulated geometry of said simulated vessel resulting in a simulated fluid flow change when~~if~~ said tool is expanded; and
recursively calculating a fluid flow of said vessels having the hierarchical structure until flow and pressure in all branches of said hierarchical structure are solved.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 7, wherein the flow simulation is modeled as an electrical resistive network.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 8, wherein potentials correspond to pressure, currents correspond to flow and electrical resistance corresponds to fluid resistance.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein a top of the fluid network is realized in a left ventricle of a heart, and a bottom of the network is in veins connecting to a right atrium of the heart.

11. (CANCELLED)

12. (NEW) The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one instrument is a real instrument.

13. (NEW) The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one instrument is a real instrument.

14. (NEW) An interventional procedure simulation system, comprising:
a control unit and an interface unit, said control unit being configured to communicate with said interface unit to simulate simultaneous handling of at least two instruments interfaced by said interface unit,

wherein the control unit includes a database of simulated vessels arranged in a hierarchical structure, and

said at least two instruments are tools expandable in the simulated vessels, whereby when one of said tools is expanded, a simulated geometry of one of said vessels changes resulting in a simulated fluid flow change in the simulated vessels.

15. (NEW) The system of claim 14, wherein one of said at least two instruments is configured to nest in the other of said at least two instruments.

16. (NEW) The system of claim 14, wherein said at least two instruments are real instruments.